consciousness evolving in this inconscient world, but only when its evolution reached a point at which it could become aware of the indwelling Presence.

The intervention of this evolving consciousness. would not be a difficulty, since there would be no contradiction of the basic nature of things in its appearance; an omnipotent Mind could easily infuse something of itself into its creatures.

One difficulty remains; it is the arbitrary nature of the creation, the incomprehensibility of its purpose, the crude meaninglessness of its law of unnecessary ignorance, strife and suffering, its ending without a denoue-ment or issue. A play? But why this stamp of so many undivine elements and characters in the play of One whose nature must be supposed to be divine?

To the suggestion that what we see worked out in the world is the thoughts of God, the retort can be made that God could well have had better thoughts and the best thought of all would have been to refrain from the creation of an unhappy and unintelligible universe. All theistic explana-tions of existence starting from an extra-cosmic Deity stumble over this difficulty and can only evade it; it would disappear only if the creator

were, even though exceeding the creation, yet immanent in it, himself in some sort both the player and the play, an Infinite casting infinite possibilities into the set form of an evolutionary cosmic order.

On that hypothesis, there must be behind the action of the material Energy a secret involved Consciousness, cosmic, infinite, building up through